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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1955.

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BOSTON, April 15, 1956.

HON. JOHN B. HYNES,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of section 115, chapter 479 of the Acts of 1938, as amended, I submit herewith a brief report of the activities of the Building Department during the year 1955.

CHARLES A. CALLANAN,  
*Building Commissioner.*

## DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION

1. Effective January 17, 1955, a reorganization of the Building Department took place. This was the result of the survey conducted by the Administrative Services Department, by direction of his Honor, the Mayor. Under the terms of the Ordinances, Mr. Charles J. Fox, Director of Administrative Services, has authority to recommend to the Mayor changes in the department organization and procedure.

Accordingly, there was established in this department five major divisions, namely:

Office Services Division.

Technical Services Division.

Construction and Safety Inspections Division.

Mechanical Inspection Division.

Electrical Inspection Division.

All present sections and personnel of the department were reassigned to the above divisions. Chief inspectors were made responsible to the above division heads for the administration of their respective sections.

2. The following positions have been created and are filled accordingly:

Executive Secretary, Mr. Frank J. Coughlin.

Head of Construction and Safety Inspections Division,  
Mr. Dennis J. Keohane.

Head of Mechanical Inspections Division, Mr. Edward  
P. Lang.

Mr. James P. Molloy has been promoted to the position of Head Administrative Clerk and the position of Head Clerk, formerly held by him, has been abolished.

3. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Thomas L. Flynn, as executive officer of the department in all technical, inspectional, and mechanical matters, will have general supervision over technical divisions and will act for the Commissioner during his absence.

The Executive Secretary, as administrative and liaison officer, will be next in authority and, during the absence of the Commissioner and of the Deputy, will be in charge of the department. All correspondence and reports will be processed through the Executive Secretary.

In the absence of all three of the above officials, the senior division head shall act.

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4. OFFICE SERVICES DIVISION. The Executive Secretary, Mr. Frank J. Coughlin, is head of this division and will be in charge of all administrative and clerical functions, wherever located; he will process all legal complaints and prosecutions; will be in charge of all personnel matters and will assign all clerical help in the department. He will prepare the annual budget and will control the department records and the Document Room.

The Office Services Division comprises the following sections and the affiliated personnel:

General Office Services, including Department Personnel Records.

Application Desk.

Street Numbering Section.

Licenses and Permit Section.

Electrical Inspection, Clerical.

Legal and Complaint Section.

Document Room and Vaults.

The Executive Secretary will act as liaison between the Commissioner and the various divisions and sections and will serve also as secretary to the Committee on Licenses.

Mr. James P. Molloy, Head Administrative Clerk, under the general direction of the executive secretary, will have complete and direct charge of all clerical and office functions wherever located.

5. TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Thomas L. Flynn, as a collateral assignment, will act as head of this division. He will supervise the activities of the Plan Examination, Zoning Review and Technical Investigations Sections, will coordinate these activities with field inspections and will act also as head of the Plan Examination Section.

While the Technical Assistant may continue to receive assignments directly from the Commissioner, he is assigned to the Technical Investigations Section for administrative purposes and will be responsible to the division head for attendance.

The Unsafe and Dangerous Buildings program, heretofore administered by the Technical Assistant, was transferred to the Construction and Safety Inspections Division and will be administered by Mr. Keohane.



## 6. CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS DIVISION.

The head of this division, Mr. Dennis J. Keohane, will supervise and coordinate, through the chief inspectors, the activities of the Construction and Egress Sections and will supervise the handling of the inspection procedures for unsafe and dangerous buildings and structures. The district inspectors will remain in charge of their present districts. The lines of jurisdiction, however, are redrawn as follows:

CONSTRUCTION DISTRICT I.—Mr. Edward J. Morgan. First Fire District, Second Fire District, except East Boston, Brighton and Charlestown.

CONSTRUCTION DISTRICT II.—Mr. John L. Riley. East Boston, Charlestown and Brighton and all the area outside the First and Second Fire Districts.

The districts formerly known as Construction I, Construction II, and Construction III were abolished. Mr. Dennis J. Keohane's former rating and status as Chief Building Inspector was abolished.

7. MECHANICAL INSPECTIONS DIVISIONS. The head of this division, Mr. Edward P. Lang, will be in supervisory charge of the Sprinkler, Plumbing, Gasfitting and Elevator Sections. He will direct the activities of all sections through their chief inspectors and, where possible, will combine and coordinate the functions and inspections of the various sections. Mr. Lang, as collateral duty, will act as fire protection engineer and chief inspector of the Sprinkler Section. His rating and status as Fire Protection Engineer was abolished.

8. ELECTRICAL INSPECTION DIVISION. The Superintendent of the Electrical Inspection Division, Mr. Bernard B. Whelan, will be in charge of the enforcement of the Electrical Code of the City of Boston. No changes in the technical organization of this division are at present contemplated.



# BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

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Statement of Building Operations in the City of Boston for the Year Ending December 31, 1955.

	1955.		1954.		1953.		1952.		1951.	
	Num-ber.	Cost.	Num-ber.	Cost.	Num-ber.	Cost.	Num-ber.	Cost.	Num-ber.	Cost.
Type I.....	45	\$10,289,000	38	\$11,090,161	29	\$9,800,500	71	\$27,428,975	139	\$32,655,390
Type II.....	9	1,724,000	12	2,211,000	3	192,000	52	9,466,300	6	2,014,500
Type III.....	126	4,758,775	90	2,250,820	118	3,631,250	116	3,488,045	140	3,494,705
Type IV.....	50	197,665	44	410,805	49	153,745	51	140,500	48	181,700
Type V.....	760	7,365,065	638	5,974,965	429	3,469,880	461	3,633,915	508	9,688,061
Type VI.....										
Total new construction.....	990	\$24,335,405	822	\$21,937,751	628	\$17,247,375	751	\$44,157,735	841	\$48,034,356
Alterations, etc.....	5,570	12,955,418	6,466	9,116,650	5,271	10,526,674	5,772	9,755,517	5,989	12,050,410
Total structural construction.....	6,560	\$37,290,823	7,288	\$31,054,401	5,899	\$27,774,049	6,523	\$53,913,252	6,830	\$60,084,766
Plumbing.....	2,635	\$2,141,201	2,658	\$2,795,490	2,811	\$3,317,941	2,889	\$3,277,622	2,709	\$4,142,115
Gas fitting.....	7,357	799,938	6,512	737,476	6,137	791,894	5,690	810,167	4,920	688,485
Heaters, ovens, etc.....	612	371,881	348	429,435	417	589,075	238	246,629	385	642,848
Elevators, new freight.....	24	105,855	28	108,919	41	233,168	44	290,155	28	225,663
Elevators, new passenger.....	34	747,100	27	413,926	97	1,368,860	33	541,765	45	876,135
Elevators, alterations, freight.....	142	80,476	128	76,534	108	83,599	125	42,411	163	80,887
Elevators, alterations, passenger.....	233	1,086,920	227	223,193	183	177,016	254	222,507	305	368,440
Signs, projections, etc.....	549	245,410	440	249,325	447	219,749	636	218,404	497	195,420
Fire escapes, etc.....	397	117,085	905	187,830	819	191,716	520	109,211	569	132,558
Take-downs, wood.....	182	136,208	112	93,939	162	75,636	96	55,718	220	75,526
Take-downs, brick, etc.....	183	450,445	57	141,800	101	154,406	341	646,897	176	194,620
Sprinklers.....	102	281,409	96	242,345	178	567,157	172	520,914	105	450,053
Excavations.....	91	86,720	32	52,690	47	27,410	39	57,500	26	25,840
Use of premises.....	53	—	74	—	58	—	33	—	61	—
Totals.....	12,594	\$6,650,648	11,644	\$5,752,902	11,616	\$7,997,657	11,110	\$7,039,900	10,209	\$8,098,620
Grand total all work.....	19,154	\$43,941,471	18,932	\$36,807,303	17,515	\$35,771,706	17,633	\$60,953,152	17,039	\$68,183,386
Department revenue.....	.....	\$207,545.58	.....	\$118,476.12	.....	\$94,077.25	.....	\$86,957.25	.....	\$72,236.00

## FOREWORD.

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The Ordinances of 1954, chapter 2, made certain changes in the structure of the Building Department. Briefly, these changes are as follows:

1. A Public Safety Commission was created, consisting of the Director of Administrative Services, the Building Commissioner, the Health Commissioner, the Chairman of the Boston Traffic Commission, and the Fire Commissioner, *ex officiis*. The commission was placed in the Building Department, but is not under the jurisdiction of the Building Commissioner. The function of the commission is to "coordinate the work of the Building, Fire, and Health Departments to the end that there may be efficient and concerted action by said departments." (Section 25, Ordinances of 1954, chapter 2.)

2. In the Public Safety Commission there is a committee known as the Committee on Licenses, composed of the Building Commissioner, the Fire Commissioner, and the Chairman of the Boston Traffic Commission, *ex officiis*. The committee, under the terms of the ordinance, shall have the powers and perform the duties formerly exercised by the Board of Street Commissioners under chapter 148, G. L.; chapter 577, Acts of 1913; chapter 488, Acts of 1924, and chapter 349, Acts of 1953, all as amended. (Section 25, Ordinances of 1954, chapter 2.)

3. The Board of Appeal, the Board of Examiners, and the Board of Examiners of Gasfitters were placed in the Building Department but are not under the jurisdiction of the Building Commissioner. (Sections 21, 22, and 24, Ordinances of 1954, chapter 2.)

4. The Electrical Inspection Division of the Fire Department was transferred to the Building Department, and the Building Commissioner, by ordinance, became successor to the duties imposed on the Wire Commissioner and the Fire Commissioner with respect to electrical installations in the City of Boston. (Section 20, Ordinances of 1954, chapter 2.)

5. The Street Numbering Section of the Public Works Department was transferred as of January 1, 1955, to the Building Department. (Ordinance 9, 1954.)

A survey, under the auspices of the Director of Administrative Services, resulted in certain changes in department organization, which became effective on January 1, 1955.

In the interests of efficiency, the department was divided then into five major divisions:

1. Office Services Division.
2. Technical Services Division.
3. Construction and Safety Inspections Division.
4. Mechanical Inspections Division.
5. Electrical Inspections Division.

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION.

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This is the first full year in which the Public Safety Commission has been functioning, and the coordination of work programs among the Building, Fire, Health, and Traffic Departments has been the main theme during the year, in addition to general safety measures which have been discussed and upon which recommendations have been made whenever it was found that the safety of the public was endangered in any way.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2, Section 25, of the Ordinances of 1954, a meeting was held once each month, on the following dates:

January 25, 1955	July 12, 1955
February 24, 1955	August 16, 1955
March 23, 1955	September 27, 1955
April 26, 1955	October 25, 1955
May 24, 1955	November 29, 1955
June 21, 1955	December 27, 1955

The Commission, as organized in 1954, with Charles J. Fox, Director of Administrative Services, as Chairman, and Charles A. Callanan, Building Commissioner, as Secretary, remained the same.

Subjects discussed and studied during the year were varied in character but were confined solely to the category of "general public safety," which was the general intent of the ordinance as adopted. It will be noted that many of the subjects listed in this report are duplications of 1954 studies, but it must be remembered that new ideas and new procedures in safety measures are initiated every day throughout the country, thereby making it necessary to repeat and repeat again studies that have been made not only in a current year, but in previous years as well. Keeping up to date on new procedures in the matter of public safety requires vigilance and thorough examination of all facts presented, and this Board has adhered to this practice since its inception in May of 1954.

Submitted herewith is a list of the subjects covered, with a brief comment on each subject:

1. ELEVATOR OPERATIONS. During the year 1954 members of the Fire Department Rescue Squads were being trained in elevator operations by elevator inspectors of the Building Department with a view to eliminating unnecessary damage during rescue operations, and we are pleased to report that this program has been completed with resultant savings to many property owners throughout the City.

The Commission has cooperated in every way with the State Board of Elevator Regulations, which has prepared a revised code, which, when it goes into effect, should reduce elevator accidents to a minimum not only in Boston but throughout the Commonwealth. Hearings are now being conducted on said revisions, and it is the hope of the Commission that favorable action will be taken thereon in the very near future.

2. EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICE. This study, initiated in 1954, with a view to coordinating medical and Fire Department facilities in the case of emergency accident cases, culminated in the training of medical aide men for ambulance service and utilization of Fire Department Rescue Squads only in cases connected with fire emergencies, thereby relieving Rescue Squads of many unnecessary calls and keeping them in readiness in the event of a major fire.

3. RUBBISH REMOVAL — "NEW YORK STREETS" AREA.

During the early part of the year considerable difficulty was entailed in keeping certain sections of the "New York Streets" area clean. Some of the residents of this district, learning that the area was to be demolished in connection with the slum clearance program, became careless and indifferent in the disposal of rubbish, and it was necessary for the Fire Department, with the cooperation of the Health Department, to take steps to remedy the situation. The program met with success after abutting property owners were notified by Health and Fire Department personnel of existing conditions and informed of the health and fire hazards attendant to unwarranted disposal of rubbish and trash in city streets and vacant lots adjacent to the area.



4. **PERSONAL SAFETY — HOME ACCIDENTS.** The Health Commissioner, a member of the Commission, has been cooperating and working with the Metropolitan Health Officers' Association in the education of the public in home accident prevention. This program, covering all phases of home accident prevention, including drownings, sunburns, scaldings, poisoning, etc., has been progressing successfully during the year through the distribution of pamphlets and publicized instructions throughout the Metropolitan Boston area.

The Commission has been happy to cooperate in this all-important work and intends to augment the program and accentuate public interest in the various aspects of this educational program, so long as the need exists.

5. **COASTING STREETS.** Prior to the reorganization of city departments, the function of designating coasting streets within the City was delegated to the former Board of Street Commissioners and, after the reorganization, this function was delegated to the Public Works Commissioner. In view of the fact that the Traffic Department regulates traffic throughout the City and supplies the Police Department with coasting signs each year for the protection of coasters, it was the opinion of this Commission that the function of designating coasting streets throughout the City should be transferred to the Traffic Commission where stricter controls could be attained and a more systematic plan for the designation of such areas could be placed in effect.

The Law Department has drawn up an amendment to present legislation to legalize the transfer of authority from the Public Works Commissioner to the Traffic Commission, and we trust that the General Court will act favorably on this measure during the present year.

6. **ALL-NIGHT PARKING.** Several discussions were held on the legalizing of all-night parking on alternate sides of the streets in various sections throughout the City. Traffic Commissioner Reilly has worked diligently on this matter and we are pleased to report at this writing that an informal notification has been received from the State Department of Public Works to the effect that this recommendation would receive favorable action and consideration. When and if favorable action is taken, it will be necessary to erect signs in every section of the City at a cost of approximately \$10,000.

This plan has worked out successfully in many other large cities and it is the Commission's belief that night-parking restrictions confined to one side of a street in various sections of the City will result in less traffic congestion and smoother accessibility for fire, police, and hospital apparatus in all cases of emergency. The amount involved to place this proposed plan in operation is infinitesimal when the saving of even one human life is the important issue to be considered. We are hopeful that this plan can be put in operation at an early date.

7. POLIO EPIDEMIC. During the summer months there was a substantial increase in polio cases over recent years with similar conditions being prevalent in other areas of the country, although in many of these other areas the situation was more serious than in Boston.

The Health Department and City Hospital officials were in constant contact with the State Department of Public Health, Dr. Enders (Nobel Prize Winner) and the top doctors at the Children's Hospital from the middle of March until after the epidemic reached its peak in September. Several conferences were held and ideas exchanged on the treatments that should be administered to victims and on procedures to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Twenty thousand children were inoculated with Salk Vaccine the latter part of May and the question of giving a second inoculation is now being considered by the State Department of Public Health. All precautions known to medical science were taken by the medical officials of our City to stem the outbreak and it is the opinion of this Board that were it not for the cooperation and assistance of the various medical authorities mentioned herein, the number of victims would have been much larger and the number of recoveries much smaller. The situation was met in an intelligent and tactful manner and it is the opinion of Dr. Cauley, the Health Commissioner, that the situation this year and the following year will not be as serious as 1955 because of the vaccine inoculations given to a greater part of the younger age groups the early part of 1955, where the disease appeared to be more or less centered.

At the recommendation of this Commission, a survey was made of all available hospital space under the City's jurisdiction to provide additional facilities for polio victims, and the results of this survey, which proved most



beneficial and helpful this year, have been filed in the offices of the Health Department for future reference, if hospital facilities should again become an issue.

8. **TRAFFIC LIGHTS.** With the cooperation of the Traffic Commission, studies were made of those sections in the City in need of traffic light installations and it was found that some one hundred locations merited consideration, at an estimated cost of \$2,500,000. Because of the tremendous expense attached to this program which would require an appropriation making further increases in the tax rate necessary, it was the opinion of the Commission that consideration should be given to financing part of this project either through an Equipment Loan or some other method whereby the cost would be distributed over a period of years and the most hazardous spots in the City would be supplied with traffic lights in the order of their need.

9. **CENTRALIZED LICENSING BUREAU.** Discussions were held on several occasions regarding the feasibility of establishing a Centralized Licensing Bureau for the issuance of licenses and permits of various character. Although this matter ordinarily would be a subject for consideration by the Administrative Services Board, it was agreed that in view of the fact that the Building, Fire, Health, and Traffic Departments issue a greater part of all licenses and permits issued throughout the City, preliminary discussions by this Board were in order.

Many of the phases attendant to an agency of this character were discussed and considered, including a suitable location, the merging of various permit and license divisions attached to different departments, administrative supervision, etc. It was the contention of the Board that a long-range study would be necessary to coordinate procedures but that, first and foremost, a study by the Law Department would be imperative before any definite action could be taken. There are so many conflicting statutes pertaining to procedures and departmental jurisdiction that would of necessity have to be amended that it was the consensus of opinion that Law Department study and review would be the first necessary step in bringing proposed plans and recommendations to a successful conclusion.

The Law Department has this matter under consideration at the present time and as soon as a report is received

from the Law Department, necessary amendments to existing statutes prepared, and final action is taken by the Legislature, the program can then be approached on a more intelligent and definite basis.

10. **TRAFFIC PAINTING PROGRAM.**—With the full co-operation of the Traffic Commission, a program was initiated this year for the painting of all center line traffic lanes, crosswalks, parkways, etc., throughout the City, utilizing City help rather than private contractors.

The program was most successful and a continuance of the same this year and following years has been recommended.

11. **DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES.** Continued study has been made on this subject, which is becoming more serious as time passes. When this subject was brought to the Commission's attention by Dr. Cauley in the early months of 1954, studies by federal, state, and local authorities were in a preliminary stage, but since that time the Atomic Energy Commission has issued circulars and instructions covering their findings to date. A definite and consistent plan for the disposal of these substances has not been formed up to the present time, but nevertheless every safeguard and precaution is being taken until the results of present studies by the Atomic Energy Commission, the State Department of Public Health, and the Legislature, which body will authorize certain city divisions to control disposals of this nature, have been consummated.

12. **ELIMINATION OF PARKING IN SHOPPING AREAS.** Studies have been conducted by the Traffic Commission, at the request of this Commission, regarding the feasibility of eliminating passenger cars from the narrow streets surrounding the retail shopping district, limiting the use of these streets to pedestrian traffic and trucks making and receiving deliveries.

Final studies have not been completed up to the present time, but it is believed that if such a plan could be placed in operation, even on a temporary basis during the heavy shopping seasons, it should result in a smoother flow of pedestrian traffic throughout the various stores and streets in the area and should eliminate many types of accidents caused by the heavy concentration of passenger cars in the area.

13. **ADVISORY HEALTH COUNCIL.** A recommendation that an "Advisory Health Council" be established in the Health Department to advise and counsel the Health Commissioner on matters relating to the public health of the community was considered favorably by the Commission, and the necessary ordinance to legalize the establishment of the same is being prepared by the Law Department for submission to the City Council and Mayor for final approval.

14. **UNSAFE AND DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS.** Unsafe buildings have been a sore spot in the general atmosphere of certain sections of the City notwithstanding the fact that they are always conducive to the hazards of fire and health. Many discourses were held on the procedures to be followed by the Health, Fire, and Building Departments in meeting the situation. In the most urgent cases constructive progress was made, but, due to the unavailability of necessary appropriations, it was only possible to touch the surface. It is intended, during the present year, to make sufficient funds available for this all-important program, with a view to eventually clearing the City of those eyesores that contribute nothing to the community but only mar the beauty of a well-kept neighborhood, and at the same time create health menaces and fire hazards in many locations.

15. **CIVIL DEFENSE—HURRICANE AND FLOOD CONTROL.** With the advent of hurricanes and floods in this area, several conferences were held with the Civil Defense Director, Joseph Malone, with a view to coordinating the works of various city agencies with that of Civil Defense. After careful study and consideration, plans were devised whereby equipment and men from all agencies involved would be utilized to the greatest extent in the event of a major disaster attributed to hurricane, floods, or any other type of catastrophe striking any area of the City.

We believe that preparedness and common sense should supersede any other consideration at the present time, if we are to face realities of this character in the future.

16. **BICYCLE ACCIDENTS.** The Commission's attention was directed to the death of a young boy, under date of September 20, who was killed while riding a bicycle, and a review of bicycle accidents during the past five years disclosed the fact that a total of three (males) lost their lives from accidents of this nature and 562 were



injured. The highest number of injuries during this period was recorded in 1950, with a total of 117 as against 56 in 1955. These figures indicate that the hazard has decreased over 50% in the 5-year period, but nevertheless the danger still exists, and it was the Commission's opinion that something should be done in the matter of control or supervision, as the Traffic Commission is unable to set up official regulations because of the fact that a bicycle is not classified as a vehicle because it does not run under its own power.

Consideration is now being given to the feasibility of drawing up an ordinance giving the Traffic Commission authority to regulate vehicles in this category.

17. HOMES FOR AGED, NURSING HOMES, ETC. The Health Department reports to the State Department of Public Health periodically during the year on conditions and operations existing in homes for the aged, nursing homes, convalescent homes, day nurseries, etc., regarding inspections covering sanitation, food, medicine, health, education, and nursing. In this connection, the Board's attention was directed to a request from the State Department of Nursing for closer supervision of these institutions in the matter of zoning, fire hazards, electrical hazards, etc. It was learned that in view of the fact that such institutions were licensed by the Health Department, the Fire and Building Departments did not devote the attention that would ordinarily be given to structures of this character, with the result that electrical, building, and other types of alterations were being made without securing permits or licenses from the departments concerned. By a vote of the Board, letters were sent out to the two hundred and some odd institutions located throughout the City informing them of building and fire code regulations and inspections proposed during the coming year and hereafter.

Another item that was directed to the Board's attention by Mr. Callanan, the Building Commissioner, concerned procedures now being followed by owners or operators of institutions above mentioned seeking licenses for extensions of facilities to an upper floor where construction consisted of wooden buildings. The Building Code limits operations in wooden buildings to the first floor, and in many cases where petitions were denied by the Building Commissioner for extensions to an upper floor, petitioners

then appeared before the Board of Appeal and received favorable action.

By a vote of the Board, a letter was forwarded to the Board of Appeal the latter part of the year pointing out the possibility of a violation of the Building Code, the hazards attendant to the extension of facilities to an upper floor, and the Board's opposition to the granting of such extensions over the decision of the Building Commissioner.

18. MISCELLANEOUS. The Health Commissioner, with the cooperation of the members of this Commission, has compiled a Revised Code for various city services which has been forwarded to the Law Department for study and approval and it is believed that this document will be ready for distribution the early part of 1956. In order to bring codes up to date, that have been more or less obsolete during the past decade, many hours of study and research were required and we believe that this document will prove valuable both to the City government and the public in general.

The Fire Department has been most active during the year, at the recommendation of this Commission, in publicizing, through the press, radio and television, fire prevention measures which have proven helpful and educational to the public, and especially to children, whose knowledge in this field is negligible.

Recommendations of the National Safety Council have been analyzed and studied with a view to improving our standing among other large cities of the country in public safety. Programs studied included death and injury records, accident facts, traffic engineering, police traffic supervision, school traffic safety programs and public safety education generally, with special emphasis being placed on parking facility studies covering both the City proper and outlying districts. It might be well to note herein that motor vehicle fatalities within the City decreased from 43 in 1953, just prior to the establishment of this Commission, to 32 in the current year, indicating that this Commission's activities were not in vain.

The simplification of procedures in the issuance of permits for electrical work in the Electrical Inspection Division of the Building Department has been the subject of discussion on several occasions. Complicated fee schedules and delays in the issuance of permits because of the length of time required to finish certain types of electrical

work were the main causes of dissension among electrical contractors. Being an administrative matter, the Administrative Services Department, headed by Mr. Fox who is also Chairman of this Board, is at present making a study of present procedures with a view to improving the situation and placing procedures on a more business-like basis by simplifying present fee schedules, if possible, and eliminating delays in the issuance of permits, wherever practicable.

Ladder crews and Engine Companies in the Fire Department were instructed and trained in the intricacies of lifting trucks, automobiles, and other heavy apparatus, which training was confined only to Rescue Squads in the past. Now when Rescue Squad men are not immediately available, these men will be in a position to handle the matter efficiently and in the same manner as the Rescue Squad men.

Another action of the Commission was motivated by an experience of the Fire Department reporting to a call in the vicinity of the Elevated Railway structure on Atlantic avenue. It appeared that the electric power of the MTA was shut off, leaving a passenger train stranded on the tracks within the area of the fire. Subsequently, a meeting was arranged between MTA and Fire Department officials resulting in maps being furnished to District Chiefs setting forth MTA routes and lines in order that apparatus in the future would be stationed in areas that would not interfere with MTA transportation.

Another Fire Department matter that received attention concerned negligence on the part of various hotels and restaurants in the cleaning of grease flues which, in many cases, caused several fires. Arrangements were made to have inspections conducted by the Fire Department of all hotels and restaurants throughout the City, with a regular program of annual inspections being instituted for the future.

A proposal of the Traffic Commissioner, William Arthur Reilly, for a pedestrian overpass in the Dewey Square section of Boston (South Station), where the new highway is now under construction, was studied and considered by the Commission. The State plan called for a traffic tunnel, but it was the consensus of opinion that a greater part of the people traveling to and from the South Station would be more apt to cross the street of

this wide area rather than utilize a tunnel and would be more inclined to use an overpass, provided a moving stairway was also included in the construction plans. The matter is still under consideration, but the main bone of contention concerns the bearing of the cost, which is estimated in the vicinity of \$500,000. It is hoped the State will look favorably on this proposal, both from the standpoints of planning and bearing the cost of construction.

#### CONCLUSION.

We believe the activities of this Commission have been most helpful and essential to the proper conduct of public safety throughout the City, and although it was suggested in the 1954 report that four meetings a year would suffice, we find, after this year's experience and with many phases of public safety being increased each year in such a fast-moving world, that it is only natural to assume that public safety will be a more important factor in municipal affairs as each new year approaches. With this thought in mind, we would like to rescind our original suggestion and assure you that it will be our intention to continue our monthly meetings in accordance with the Ordinance as adopted, with renewed vigor, vision and alertness, to the end that the public safety standing of Boston will be the highest in the country, with new ideas, new programs and new procedures the order of the day.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES J. FOX, *Chairman,*

CHARLES A. CALLANAN,

*Building Commissioner, Secretary,*

JOHN H. CAULEY, M.D., *Health Commissioner,*

FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner,*

WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner.*

LAWRENCE W. COSTELLO,

*Acting Secretary.*



Number of permits and licenses issued from January 1, to December 31, 1955 by the Permit Division of the Committee on Licenses, and revenue received for same.

CLASS.				Number of Permits and Licenses Issued.	Revenue Received.
Garages.....				336	\$3,608 00
Private	312 cars	254 permits	\$258 00		
Lubritoriums	61 cars	34 permits	37 00		
Wash Stand	7 cars	1 permit	6 00		
Repair shops	122 cars	16 permits	107 00		
Business	508 cars	29 permits	2,900 00		
Public	215 cars	2 permits	300 00		
Totals . . . 1,225			\$3,608 00		
Inflammables.....				139	7,731 00
Total Gallonage: 2,080,328 gallons					
Open-air parking spaces.....				334	27,751 91
Total.....				809	\$39,090 91

Committee on Licenses:

CHARLES A. CALLANAN, *Chairman*,  
WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner*,  
FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner*.

FRANK J. COUGHLIN,  
*Secretary*.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES J. FOX, *Chairman*,  
JOHN H. CAULEY, M.D., *Health Commissioner*,  
CHARLES A. CALLANAN, *Building Commissioner*,  
FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner*,  
WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner*.

CHARLES A. CALLANAN,  
*Secretary*.

## LIST OF OPEN-AIR PARKING SPACES FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
145-149 Albany st., Boston.....	3	Benjamin Alston.....	6,280	35
114 Allston st., Allston.....	21	Christos Patsades.....	15,000	6
Rear 10-16 Atlantic av., City.....	3	North End Auto Park, Inc.....	21,600	100
436 Atlantic av., Boston.....	3	Raymond V. Finnegan.....	3,840	9
474-476 and 514-516 Atlantic av., Boston.....	3	Atlantic Auto Park, Inc.....	120,695	46
Avery pl., Boston.....	3	Samuel S. Boland.....	3,000	19
75-77 Beach st., Boston.....	3	John T. Walker.....	6,611	4
137 Beach st. and 176 South st., Boston.....	3	Beach Street Realty.....	3,500	16
17 Beacon st., Boston.....	3	Garage Service Corp.....	3,600	22
785 Beacon st., Boston.....	21	Robert H. Sullivan.....	3,150	25
854 Beacon st., Boston.....	21	Amy B. Simmons.....	715	4
54 Berkeley and Rear 56 Berkeley st.....	5	Daniel P. Carr & John R. McCarthy..	2,940	15
16-22 Bowdoin st., Boston.....	3	Anthony DeRosa.....	7,000	49
19-31 Bowker st., Boston.....	3	James W. Meek.....	4,600	32
801 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Ralph M. Naves.....	3,500	23
1220 Boylston st., Boston.....	4	Sun Oil Company.....	7,000	45
1279 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Fenway Park Parking, Inc.....	59,347	150
1301 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Edmor's Service Station.....	5,000	35
1325 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Peter Mouris.....	12,500	36
1330 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Fenway Flyer Diner.....	7,000	41
217 Brighton av., Allston.....	21	Henry T. Davis.....	700	5
79-81 Brighton st., Boston.....	3	Harry H. Levine.....	1,500	10
61-71 Bristol st., Boston.....	3	Louis Gilman.....	5,330	28
47-53 Broad st., Boston.....	3	Joseph T. Deragon.....	3,500	21
155 Broadway, Boston.....	5	Max Siders.....	7,000	49
207 Broadway, Boston.....	3	Najeb Succar.....	9,500	44
372 Broadway, Boston.....	3	Rapid Service Realty Corp.....	10,000	39
115-121 Brookline av., Boston.....	21	Samuel Shactman.....	4,000	20
Rear 40-42 Bunker Hill st., Charlestown.....	2	Elizabeth Pelosi.....	4,364	14
65-71 Cambridge st. and 10 Hawkins st.....	3	Bowdoin Amusement Co.....	18,286	93
115 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Augustus Mantia.....	11,798	75
200 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Arnando V. Catalano.....	6,100	42
200 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Chester's Auto Park.....	7,906	40
261 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	John P. McGarry.....	575	4
296 Cambridge st., Boston.....	5	Stephen Kreticos.....	1,400	10
322-330 Cambridge st., Boston.....	5	Henry E. McClintock.....	3,500	20
91 Carver st., Boston.....	5	Arthur Miller.....	2,355	10

## PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
-23 Central st., Boston.....	3	Kilby Parking Company, Inc.....	11,127	73
9 Charles st., Boston.....	3	Albert A. Porcello.....	13,798	42
-97 Charter st., Boston.....	3	Donato Iasconi.....	2,308	7
Chelsea st., Charlestown.....	2	Northern Contracting Corporation...	14,254	77
4-185 Chelsea st., Charlestown.....	2	Mystic Parking, Inc.....	71,500	500
Chestnut st., Charlestown.....	2	Mary L. Buckley.....	8,118	37
-38 Chestnut st., Charlestown.....	2	Joseph L. Mellino.....	7,000	5
3 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton.....	22	Connolly's Garage, Inc.....	59,000	10
Clarendon st., Boston.....	5	New England Lubricating Service....	12,092	70
34 Columbus av., Roxbury.....	11	Joseph P. Pavidis.....	9,696	17
26 Columbus av., Boston.....	11	Esso Standard Oil Company.....	23,266	46
2-124 Commerce st., Boston.....	3	Carl Lochialto.....	3,500	25
3 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	G. Savarese & Son, Inc.....	3,500	25
3-554 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	Patrick Anastasia.....	1,848	7
3 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	Rocco Zucco.....	20,281	49
& 24 Common st., Charlestown.....	2	Henry Cure.....	2,410	10
4-575 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Beaconsfield Motors.....	8,270	21
4-589 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Kenmore Auto Park.....	14,400	100
4-601 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	William Strang.....	15,682	49
3 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	John A. Guzzi.....	7,000	49
1-1253 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	21	Israel Weiner.....	7,700	25
7 Commonwealth av., Brighton.....	21	George F. Kelley.....	7,000	49
-237 Congress st., City.....	3	Gloria Gretskey.....	3,200	22
-342 Congress st., City.....	6	Dominic Bramante.....	4,939	18
-289 Corey rd. and 255 Kelton st., Brighton..	21	George Cohen.....	19,567	25
Coventry st., Boston.....	9	J. Wilson Parker.....	9,170	25
Cross st., Boston.....	3	Sumner Tunnel Service Station.....	1,400	10
Curve st., Boston.....	3	Boston Paper Board Co.....	9,763	25
Deerfield st., Boston.....	5	Lawrence A. Brophy.....	18,220	47
Deerfield st., Boston.....	5	Loyal Protective Life Insurance Co...	15,700	58
Devon st., Roxbury.....	14	Abraham Yorks.....	23,449	25
Dorchester av., South Boston.....	6	George F. McKenzie.....	3,250	20
1 Dorchester av., Dorchester.....	16	George F. Gilbody.....	21,429	150
Edgerly rd., Roxbury.....	4	Arthur A. Cooke.....	1,882	10
Edinboro' st., Boston.....	3	Joseph Touma.....	3,000	25
Eliot st., Boston.....	3	Frank J. McDonald.....	5,478	35
199 Endicott st., City.....	3	Frank P. Pennachio and Dominic Pen- nachio.....	1,000	7
Auguston rd., Brighton.....	21	Eugene M. Colmes.....	5,000	35

## PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	N. Ca.
14 Fargo st., South Boston.....	6	Matthew D. Spinale.....	46,479	
60 Fayette st., Boston.....	5	Arthur Wolfe.....	16,600	
17-19 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Frank Ercolini.....	2,411	
47-51-53 Fleet st., Boston.....	3	Paul Grande.....	1,190	
84-90 Friend st., Boston.....	3	Joseph Barca, Jr.....	4,500	
Rear 76-100 Gainsborough st., Boston.....	4	Wallace R. Marden Co.....	14,250	
248 Hanover st., Boston.....	3	Edward Giordani.....	1,970	
207 Harrison av., Boston.....	3	Philip M. Horan.....	2,100	
937-939-941 Harrison av. and 3-11 Fairweather st., Boston	8	Giovanni Carbone.....	8,500	
214-226 Harvard av., Allston.....	21	Herbert Kaplan.....	14,298	
3-11 Hollis st., 2-18 Dillaway st., 10 Dore st., and 769-777 Washington st., City.	3	New England Auto Parking System, Inc.....	21,465	
47-53 Hudson st., Boston.....	3	Benne Schiff.....	5,557	
111 Hudson st., Boston.....	3	George Moses.....	10,000	
244 Humboldt av., Roxbury.....	12	Arsene B. Cressilov.....	1,500	
353 Huntington av., Boston.....	4	Opera Holding Company, Inc.....	8,064	
563 Huntington av., Boston.....	4	Albert J. Ryan, jr.....	7,143	
920 Huntington av., Boston.....	10	Estate of Thomas Reynolds.....	15,192	
130 Hutchings st., Roxbury.....	12	Louis Gateman.....	11,534	
55 Jersey st., Boston.....	5	Homestead Motor Car Co.....	32,679	
4 Jerusalem pl., Boston.....	3	Peter B. Moschella.....	2,400	
49 Joy st., City.....	3	William and Lorene Nickerson.....	800	
12-14 Kennard av., Boston.....	3	Herbert G. Anderson.....	3,900	
Rear 8 Kinrose rd., Brighton.....	21	Philip Wernick.....	1,420	
82 Kneeland st., City.....	3	Loy Wong.....	1,400	
154-156 Kneeland st., City.....	3	Robert Hart.....	3,500	
12 Knight st., Readville.....	18	John E. Coury.....	13,790	
18 Lawrence Av., Roxbury.....	14	Mary Botbol.....	5,062	
30-54 Leon st., Boston.....	4	Kar-Hol Corporation.....	74,923	
130-132 Leverett st., Boston.....	3	Harris Osofsky.....	18,338	
30 Lowney Way and Tremont st., Charlestown.	2	Mary E. Giblin.....	13,522	
40 Malvern st., Allston.....	21	Gertrude B. Costello.....	8,850	
909 Massachusetts av., Boston.....	8	Dickson Truck Rental System, Inc...	144,321	
20-30 Maverick sq., East Boston.....	1	Louis Ciampi.....	13,000	
277 Maverick st., East Boston.....	1	Anthony and Ralph Correale.....	2,858	
37 Merrimack st., Boston.....	3	Estate of Harry E. Morton.....	9,036	
131 Merrimack st., Boston.....	3	Jacob W. Blank.....	6,332	
60 Middlesex st., City.....	5	H. L. Miller.....	1,825	

## PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
32-234 Milk st., City.....	3	Margaret H. McMackin.....	2,500	18
3 Necco st., Boston.....	6	Warehouse 13, Inc.....	13,840	73
4-6 Newbury st., City.....	5	Ritz-Carlton Hotel.....	8,736	49
49-153 Newbury st., 278-284 Dartmouth st. City.	5	Estate of Aroline C. Gove.....	2,400	6
49 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Newell B. Kurson.....	700	5
39-405 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Harvard Club of Boston.....	12,500	58
19-439 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Hotel Puritan.....	23,760	98
75-587 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Percy L. Rideout.....	17,500	75
30-360 North st. and 30 Harris st., Boston ...	3	North Street Auto Park, Inc.....	16,300	74
11 Northampton st., Boston.....	8	John Triolo.....	5,000	20
31 North Beacon st., Brighton.....	22	Robert W. Balam.....	82,680	100
3 Northern av., South Boston.....	6	Harbor Motor Terminals, Inc.....	32,895	80
Norway st., Boston.....	4	Romeo L. Desfosses.....	3,500	25
Oldfields rd., Dorchester.....	14	Harry L. Silva.....	17,600	50
4-5 Oliver pl., City.....	3	Ball Parking Co.....	6,425	28
Park st., Charlestown.....	2	Carmen C. Bellino.....	13,800	10
Park st., Charlestown.....	2	Louise S. Raia, doing business as Raia Transportation.....	9,000	25
Pilgrim rd., City.....	4	Mary D. Mooney.....	12,000	41
Poplar st., City.....	3	James Tuffo.....	1,100	5
Poplar st., City.....	3	Hyman Litinsky.....	2,100	9
-51 Purchase st., City.....	3	Allstate Plumbing Co., Inc.....	6,892	40
-85 Queensberry st., Boston.....	5	Linwood Grill, Inc.....	20,706	50
Readville st., Hyde Park.....	18	Alice T. Moses.....	14,000	98
Richmond st., City.....	3	Richmond Auto Park, Inc.....	9,000	63
Rollins st., Boston.....	3	Samuel B. Michelman.....	2,000	6
-39-41 Rutherford av., Charlestown.....	2	Frank Faraci.....	3,908	25
Sleeper st., South Boston.....	6	Farrell's Dock & Terminal Co.....	10,395	72
-58 Stanhope st., City.....	4	Stanhope Garage, Inc.....	14,645	84
128-132 Staniford st., City.....	3	Angelo Pagano.....	3,023	12
terling st. and 17 Williams st., Roxbury.....	9	Milano Guarino.....	21,482	75
Stoneholm st., Boston.....	4	Lynwood Apartments, Inc.....	5,940	19
Strathmore rd., Brighton.....	21	Freda D. Hanna.....	1,500	10
Stuart st. and 75 Church st., City.....	5	Stuart Street Jenney Station.....	1,400	9
Stuart st. and 66-72 Church st., Boston....	5	Como Rombola.....	11,400	70
-655 Summer st., South Boston.....	6	James D. Mahoney.....	59,641	41
Sumner st., East Boston.....	1	Jerry Nigro.....	7,520	25
-292 Tremont st. and 8-24 Shawmut av., City.	3	Nagle's Auto Park.....	9,499	50



## PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No Ca
283-285 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	R. A. McCormick Company, Inc.....	4,578	
337-359 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	Paul J. Caviechi, Jr.....	2,200	
35 Tyler St., City.....	3	Sheltered Workshop.....	3,225	
12-20 Vinal st., Brighton.....	21	Mae Zieman.....	17,724	
15-17-19 Walbridge st., Allston.....	21	Wilhelm M. Hansen.....	10,846	
23 Walbridge st., Allston.....	21	Philip Chansky.....	15,412	
3-5-7 Wall st., City.....	3	Joseph Freni.....	4,332	
45-47 Wall St., City.....	3	John Colonna.....	2,160	
20-22 Wapping st., Charlestown.....	2	Edsen J. Martin.....	2,307	
243-5-7 Warren st., Roxbury.....	12	Russell Dikmak.....	3,480	
524 Warren st., Roxbury.....	12	George Starr.....	9,700	
20 Washington st., Brighton.....	21	Patrick J. Murphy, Jr.....	24,663	
2750 Washington st., Roxbury.....	11	Madeline R. Millman.....	9,415	
3694 Washington st., Forest Hills.....	11	Catherine B. Ramsdell.....	68,420	
3699 Washington st. and 11 Morton st., Forest Hills.	11	Lincoln Oil Co.....	14,900	
Rear 3710 Washington st., Forest Hills.....	11	Walter D. Nolan.....	14,000	
11-23 Way st., City.....	3	Mabel Chin.....	7,100	
106-114 W. Brookline st., Boston.....	9	Josephine Walker.....	12,663	
105 Western av., Brighton.....	22	Harvard University.....	227,500	
37 Westland av., Boston.....	4	Symphony Auto Park, Inc.....	9,650	
19-25-33 William T. Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester.	13	Simmons Parking Corp.....	200,000	
28 Woodlawn st., Jamaica Plain.....	11	Mrs. George J. Laverdure.....	2,945	
4 Wyman pl., Jamaica Plain.....	10	Angelo Criscitiello.....	10,000	

## "GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
10 Edgeworth st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,124	21
36 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,508	25
36-38 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,556	20
6 A st., South Boston.....	6	Lester S. Chilson Co., Inc.....	3,500	25
Baldwin st., South Boston.....	6	Lester S. Chilson Co., Inc.....	5,000	29
1 Court st., Boston, and 7-9 Court sq.....	3	Court Street Parking Co. (Samuel P. Coffman).....	17,500	91
55 La Grange st., Boston.....	3	City Parking Garage, Inc. (S. P. Coffman).....	7,650	32
53 Broadway and 1-11 Shawmut st., City..	3	Philip Ferris.....	8,485	50
69 Broadway and 5-7-9 Piedmont st., Boston	5	Philip Ferris.....	4,898	14
Carson st., Dorchester.....	13	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	59,775	100
Carson st., Dorchester.....	13	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	19,596	34
7 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	6,164	35
Billerica st., City.....	3	John I. Fitzgerald.....	3,500	25
68 Nashua st., City.....	3	John I. Fitzgerald.....	4,000	25
4 Beverly st., City.....	3	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	9,500	44
0 Dartmouth st., City, and 7-27 Harwich st.	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	12,690	65
24 Harwich st., City.....	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	7,698	38
26 Somerset st., City.....	3	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	5,453	32
20 Truro st., City.....	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	5,350	29
117 Arlington st., City.....	5	General Trading Co.....	11,635	68
Ashburton pl., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,048	21
Atlantic av., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	60,011	55
98 Bowdoin st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	6,900	37
222 Boylston st. and 58-60 Park sq., Boston	5	Boylston Auto Park.....	6,963	50
51 Brattle st. and 15-23-25 Hanover st., City	3	Brattle Company.....	41,977	219
Broadway, Eliot, Carver, and Stuart sts., City	5	Red Crown Oil Products Co.....	17,915	105
Buckingham st., City.....	4	Back Bay Auto Park, Inc.....	11,752	64
214 Causeway st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	6,439	31
Columbus av., Berkeley and Isabella sts., Boston.	5	General Trading Co.....	10,904	61
195 Congress st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	16,394	90
Gainsborough st., Boston.....	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	24,207	109
Hanover st., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	44,148	244
High st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	21,717	121
59 India st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	3,372	18
32 Lowell st., and Cotting and Billerica sts., City.	3	General Trading Co.....	5,670	31
50 Mason st., Boston.....	3	Eliot-Carver Co., Inc.....	11,484	59



## "GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Ca.
18-28 Nashua st. and 18-26 Billerica st., City..	3	Nashua Parking Co., Inc.....	15,297	
36-40 Nashua st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	8,628	
44 Nashua st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	3,360	
99 Nashua st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	39,500	1
10 Somerset st., City.....	3	Eliot-Carver Co., Inc.....	8,000	
12-14 South st., City.....	3	General Trading Co. (Licenses sur- rendered: 7-13-55).....	7,382	
43-65 South st., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc. (Licenses surrendered: 8-29-55).....	10,790	
77 Stanhope st., City.....	4	General Trading Co.....	12,185	
150 Stuart st., City.....	5	Red Crown Oil Products Co.....	20,333	
319-321 Stuart st., City.....	5	General Trading Co.....	44,124	2
390 Stuart st., City.....	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	9,617	
421 Stuart st., City.....	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	33,350	
23-25 Oxford st., City.....	3	Albert Gilbert.....	2,200	
121-123 Tyler st., City.....	3	Albert Gilbert.....	17,873	
1927 Beacon st., Brighton.....	21	Gulf Oil Corp.....	26,530	
148 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton.....	21	Gulf Oil Corp.....	18,973	
210 Columbus av. and 120 Berkeley st., Boston..	5	Gulf Oil Corp.....	31,214	
1650 Commonwealth av., Brighton.....	21	Gulf Oil Corp.....	19,546	
182-188 Summer st. and 612-624 Atlantic av., Boston.	3	Gulf Oil Corp.....	18,326	
336-352 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	Gulf Oil Corp.....	14,557	
12 Bulfinch st. and 52-60 Howard st., City.....	3	Paul K. Handy.....	6,069	
30-38 Chardon st., City.....	3	Paul K. Handy.....	8,808	
174-176 Columbus av., Boston.....	5	Handy Parking.....	4,840	
1-19 Green st., 2-18 Chardon st., and 11-13 Pitts st., City.	3	Paul K. Handy.....	21,433	
10 Hawkins st., City.....	3	Paul K. Handy.....	4,405	
37-41 Dalton st., Boston.....	4	William Lyndon.....	21,500	
Rear 95-135 Huntington av., Boston.....	4	William Lyndon.....	21,500	
4 Irvington st., Boston.....	4	William Lyndon.....	7,100	
275 South st. and Utica st., City.....	3	William Lyndon.....	46,000	
Trinity Place Station, Boston.....	4	William Lyndon.....	7,000	
3-5-7 Chatham Row and 57 Chatham st., City	3	Francis H. Maher.....	2,084	
49-51 Chatham st., City.....	3	Francis H. Maher.....	1,733	
132-136 State st., City.....	3	Francis H. Maher.....	1,400	
9 Glenville av., Brighton.....	21	Brainerd Auto Park (Nathan Mazur).	7,150	
Rear 80-90 Gordon st., Brighton.....	21	Joseph G. Mazur.....	34,000	
100 Kilmarnock st., Boston.....	5	Brainerd Auto Park Co. (Nathan Mazur).....	25,419	

## "GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
Larnark rd., Brighton .....	21	Nathan Mazur.....	10,712	75
Redford st., Brighton.....	21	Nathan Mazur.....	10,712	75
39 Arch st., City.....	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	3,400	19
Federal st., City.....	3	Federal Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	10,000	61
26 Friend st. and 50-60 Elm st., City .....	3	Post Office Sq. Parking, Inc. (D. Meyers).....	7,000	45
24 Hollis st. to 17-35 Common st., City ....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	28,500	185
27 Kilby st., City.....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	5,000	29
Kilby st. and 10-20 Central st., City.....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	6,637	45
47 Stuart st. and 40-50 La Grange st., City..	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	14,031	94
Tyler st. to 76-82 Harrison av., City.....	3	Devy-Annex, Inc. (David Meyers)....	8,814	58
7-857 Washington st., Warrenton and Common sts., City.	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	32,900	215
85 Brookline av., Boston.....	21	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	43,403	245
9 Newbury st., City.....	5	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	7,000	49
5 Newbury st., City.....	5	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	7,000	36
8 Congress st., corner State st., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	11,428	63
37 Pemberton sq., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	10,700	73
Scollay sq., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	9,926	58
Motte st., City.....	3	William Saitz.....	10,958	50
80 Washington st., City.....	3	William Saitz.....	14,181	50
11 Appleton st., Boston.....	5	David H. Sedersky.....	6,300	44
20 Chandler st., Boston.....	5	David H. Sedersky.....	41,745	147
Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Herbert Skolnik.....	1,200	9
Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Herbert Skolnik.....	1,000	7
2-214 A st., South Boston .....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	7,149	50
5 A st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	38,068	150
Alden st. and 4-6 Alden ct., City .....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	4,443	20
Chardon st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	9,271	60
27 Farnsworth st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	9,034	50
Neece st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	28,500	100
27 Sleeper st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	10,000	50
Sudbury st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	4,274	25
Sudbury st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	6,294	30
5-295 Broadway and 272 Harrison av., City..	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon) ..	2,700	14
29 Curve st. and 149 Hudson st., City .....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon) ..	1,993	10
Curve st., Boston.....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon) ..	9,763	50
3-145-147 Hudson st., City.....	3	Kalil Solomon.....	4,200	27
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Noanet st., City.....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon) ..	8,719	60

## "GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1955 — Continued.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Ca
1 Noanet st., Boston.....	3	Kalil Solomon.....	2,490 add'l.	
59-61 Albany st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	2,940	
73-79 Albany st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	3,856	
62 Hudson st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	5,450	
91 Kneeland st., 24-30 Hudson st., 45-49 Albany st., City	3	John A. Sullivan.....	10,600	
332 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton.....	21	The Texas Co. (M. L. O'Connell)....	31,910	
584 Commonwealth av., City.....	5	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	13,466	
200 Ipswich st. and 1241 Boylston st., City ....	5	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	20,106	
122 Scaver st., Roxbury.....	12	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	18,600	
159-163 Milk st. and 6-8 Custom House st., Boston.	3	Willard M. Towne.....	4,187	
5-11 Custom House st., City.....	3	Willard M. Towne.....	1,400	
120 Brookline av., City.....	21	United Consumers, Inc.....	3,500	
75 Van Ness st., City.....	5	United Consumers, Inc.....	7,700	
75 Belvidere st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,435	
87-93 Belvidere st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	25,000	
62-70 St. Germain st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,479	

## BASEBALL, RACING, AND FOOTBALL.

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
9 Boylston st., City.....	5	Eliot Carver Co., Inc. (G. E. Cheevers) (Baseball and Football).....	48,023	100
ur 1365 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Michael D. Saunders (Baseball and Football).....	7,677	45
9 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Michael D. Saunders (Baseball).....	9,700	50
ur 147 Brookline av. and 27 Fullerton st., Boston.....	21	Newton Realty Co. (J. W. Newton) (Baseball).....	42,965	50
Brookline av., Boston.....	21	Arthur Searlatos and Louis J. Taris (Baseball).....	6,168	25
Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Lawrence A. Brophy (Baseball).....	7,840	32
-594-598 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	George H. Kerr (Baseball and Foot- ball).....	18,850	98
Van Ness st. and 189 Ipswich st., City.....	5	Lalime & Partridge, Inc. (Baseball and Football).....	22,111	94
Waldemar av., East Boston.....	1	Eastern Racing Association, Inc. (65 days, April 1 to June 4 and October 3 to October 29).....	371,316	2,600
Babcock st., Allston.....	21	Newton Realty Co. (Football).....	14,500	100

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS AND FEES RECEIVED BY THE  
BUILDING DEPARTMENT—JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER  
31, 1955.

	Number	Fees Paid
New construction . . . . .	1,018	\$45,616 00
Alterations . . . . .	7,275	27,472 00
Elevator, annual tests—minor alterations	1,539	5,453 00
Amendments . . . . .	234	2,982 00
Sprinklers . . . . .	114	720 00
Night elevator tests . . . . .	20	360 00
Special foundation . . . . .	54	264 00
Board of Appeal . . . . .	262	3,440 00
Boilers, etc. . . . .	624	622 00
Plumbing, old . . . . .	1,900	2,740 00
Plumbing, new . . . . .	741	4,195 00
Plumbing, no fee . . . . .	—	—
Gas fitting, old . . . . .	7,354	8,018 00
Gas fitting, new . . . . .	43	25 50
Gas fitting, no fee . . . . .	—	—
Building law books . . . . .	198	482 00
Petit law books . . . . .	205	163 50
Elevator licenses, new . . . . .	1,512	1,501 00
Elevator licenses, renewal . . . . .	4,505	2,253 00
Elevator licenses, out of town . . . . .	1	50
Elevator licenses, new, no fee . . . . .	40	—
Elevator licenses, renewal, no fee . . . . .	149	—
Elevator licenses, duplicates . . . . .	64	32 00
Master gas fitter licenses, new . . . . .	10	16 00
Master gas fitter licenses, renewal . . . . .	667	1,326 00
Journeyman gas fitter licenses, new . . . . .	46	20 75
Journeyman gas fitter licenses, renewal . . . . .	824	408 25
Permission to inspect plans in vault and certified copies of documents . . . . .	264	763 00
Gasoline licenses . . . . .	139	7,814 75
Garage licenses . . . . .	313	3,606 00
License for storage of inflammables and explosives . . . . .	139	7,814 75
Open-air parking licenses . . . . .	333	29,616 66
Electrical inspection . . . . .	15,903	63,337 47
	<u>46,371</u>	<u>\$211,384 93</u>

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND REPORTS, 1955.

New buildings . . . . .	5,978
Alterations . . . . .	15,815
Existing buildings . . . . .	96
Boilers, engines, etc. . . . .	27
Plumbing, new . . . . .	1,853

Plumbing, alterations . . . . .	5,878
Plumbing tests . . . . .	489
Gas fitting, new . . . . .	467
Gas fitting, alterations . . . . .	9,565
Gas fitting, tests . . . . .	4,938
Egress . . . . .	36,586
Elevators . . . . .	4,835
Sprinklers . . . . .	2,886
Standpipes . . . . .	148
Tests of both . . . . .	1,023
Zoning . . . . .	3,715
Plans . . . . .	2,025
Special form applications . . . . .	5,591
Fires . . . . .	952
Gas accidents:	
Fatal . . . . .	9
Nonfatal . . . . .	37
Elevator accidents:	
Fatal . . . . .	6
Nonfatal . . . . .	30
Building accidents—special reports . . . . .	12
Complaints made — { Violations . . . . .	716
{ Unsafe Buildings . . . . .	207
Finals . . . . .	1,561
Communications acted on . . . . .	1,113
Special detail—Civil Defense Inspections . . . . .	1,407
Complaints referred to Law Department for action . . . . .	75



## ELECTRICAL INSPECTION DIVISION.

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Permits granted to perform electrical work . . .	15,903
Exterior inspections made . . . . .	5,480
Interior inspections made . . . . .	26,462
Theaters, amusement places, carnivals etc., inspected . . . . .	
Hospitals, homes, clinics, etc., inspected . . .	530
Complaints received and investigated . . . .	811
Grants of location approved . . . . .	156
Streets affected . . . . .	278
Underground service locations approved and referred to Public Works Department . . .	2,768
Plans of underground services loaned to utilities, etc. . . . .	226
Manholes constructed . . . . .	149
Underground services installed . . . . .	409
Poles set, new locations . . . . .	1,399
Poles reset, replaced or straightened . . . .	
Poles removed . . . . .	796
Poles standing in public ways . . . . .	22,097
Notices of overhead construction . . . . .	3,813
Notices of underground construction . . . . .	1,772
Reports on overhead construction . . . . .	2,033
Reports on underground construction . . . . .	1,011
Accidents investigated . . . . .	167
Notices of street lamp locations received . .	240
Street lamp locations investigated . . . . .	1,225
Vaults installed in public ways during year .	15
Vaults in public ways, 13,800 volts primary .	240
Underground conduit installed, feet . . . .	175,240

## FINANCIAL REPORT, 1955 — EXPENDITURES.

## 1. PERSONAL SERVICE:

10. Permanent employees . . . . .	\$549,483 47
11. Temporary employees . . . . .	—
12. Overtime . . . . .	2,184 60
	<hr/>
	\$551,668 07

## 2. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:

27. Repairs and servicing of equipment . . .	\$175 79
28. Travel expenses — inside the state . . .	11,989 60
29. Other contractual services . . . . .	23,968 49
	<hr/>
	\$36,133 88



## 3. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS:

30. Automotive supplies and materials . . . . .	\$61 70
36. Office supplies and materials . . . . .	7,937 25
39. Other operating supplies and materials . . . . .	10 13
	<hr/>
	\$8,009 08

## 4. CURRENT CHARGES AND OBLIGATIONS:

49. Dues, Subscriptions, Licenses, etc. . . . .	\$100 50
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## 5. EQUIPMENT:

56. Office equipment . . . . .	\$4 50
59. Miscellaneous equipment . . . . .	105 65
	<hr/>
	\$110 15

Grand total . . . . .	<u><u>\$596,021 98</u></u>
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Appropriation . . . . .	<u><u>\$597,977 67</u></u>
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Department income . . . . .	<u><u>\$211,384 93</u></u>
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Unsafe buildings razed by city . . . . .	13
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Unsafe buildings shored by city or other- wise secured against trespass . . . . .	8
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Total expenditures for shoring, securing, and razing . . . . .	<u><u>\$21,214 60</u></u>
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## CLASSIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

Quota.	Title.	Grade.	Compensation.
1	Building Commissioner . . . . .	—	\$916 67
1	Deputy Building Commissioner . . . . .	32	146 25
1	Executive Secretary . . . . .	30	553 54
1	Chief of Technical Services . . . . .	30	122 50
1	Head of Construction and Safety Inspections Division . . . . .	30	127 25
1	Head of Mechanical Inspections Division . . . . .	30	127 25
1	Superintendent, Electrical Inspections . . . . .	30	136 75
1	Technical Assistant to Building Commissioner . . . . .	28	122 50
2	Senior Construction Engineer . . . . .	28	\$114 28-125 79
2	Senior Construction Engineer . . . . .	28	223 12-532 88
2	Head Administrative Clerk . . . . .	26	103 50-114 28
1	Zoning Administrator . . . . .	26	117 75
2	Chief Building Inspector . . . . .	24	108 25
1	Chief Egress Inspector . . . . .	24	108 25
1	Chief Electrical Inspector . . . . .	24	108 25
1	Chief Elevator Inspector . . . . .	24	98 75
1	Chief Gas Fitting Inspector . . . . .	24	108 25
1	Chief Plumbing Inspector . . . . .	24	98 75
2	Head Clerk . . . . .	22	94 00-98 75
1	Chief Permit Supervisor . . . . .	20	90 50
2	Legal Assistant . . . . .	20	90 50
3	Senior Egress Inspector . . . . .	20	83 50-87 00
1	Senior Cashier . . . . .	19	87 00
16	Building Inspector . . . . .	19	80 00-87 00
20	Interior Electrical Inspector . . . . .	19	80 00-87 00
3	Exterior Electrical Inspector . . . . .	19	83 50-87 00
7	Elevator Inspector . . . . .	18	73 00-83 50
6	Gas Fitting Inspector . . . . .	18	76 50-83 50
8	Plumbing Inspector . . . . .	18	76 50-83 50
3	Sprinkler Inspector . . . . .	18	76 50-83 50
1	Welding Inspector . . . . .	18	76 50
1	Street Numbering Inspector . . . . .	17	76 50
14	Egress Inspector . . . . .	17	73 00-76 50
3	Principal Clerk . . . . .	17	80 00
3	Principal Clerk-Stenographer . . . . .	17	73 00-80 00
1	Cashier . . . . .	16	68 00
1	Encroachment Investigator . . . . .	15	70 50
9	Senior Clerk-Typist . . . . .	13	63 00
1	Senior Clerk . . . . .	13	65 50
1	Senior Clerk-Stenographer . . . . .	13	68 00
1	Motor Equipment Operator . . . . .	12	63 00
1	Clerk-Messenger . . . . .	8	50 50
3	Clerk-Typist . . . . .	8	43 36-58 70
1	Clerk . . . . .	—	58 70

## GENERAL STATISTICS, 1955.

On January 1, 1955, there were (estimated) in the City of Boston:

Brick and other fire-resistive build- ings	46,380	
Erected during the year . . . .	230	
	<hr/>	46,610
Taken down during year . . . .	183	
	<hr/>	
Existing January 1, 1956 . . . .		46,427
Wood buildings . . . . .	95,369	
Erected during year . . . . .	760	
	<hr/>	96,129
Taken down during year . . . .	182	
	<hr/>	
Existing January 1, 1956 . . . .		95,947
		<hr/>
Total number (estimated) of buildings in Boston on January 1, 1956 . . . . .		142,374

## BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION.

For the purpose of promoting the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation of the historic Beacon Hill District, and to maintain said District as a landmark in the history of architecture and as a tangible reminder of Old Boston as it existed in the early days of the Commonwealth, the Legislature, under Chapter 616 of the Acts of 1955, established the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission.

The Commission is established in the Building Department but is not under the supervision or control of the Building Commissioner.

The membership of the Commission, as appointed by the Mayor, is as follows:

	Nominated By	Term Ends
Charles A. Callanan	The Mayor	May 1, 1960
John G. Greene	Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities	May 1, 1959
Isidor Richmond	Boston Society of Architects	May 1, 1958
John Codman	Boston Real Estate Board	May 1, 1957
Robert E. Minot	Beacon Hill Civic Association	May 1, 1956

The above members were sworn in by City Clerk Walter J. Malloy in the presence of his Honor, the Mayor, on November 29, 1955. They then adjourned to the office of the Building Commissioner, held an organizational meeting and elected the following officers:

JOHN CODMAN, *Chairman*,

ISIDOR RICHMOND, *Vice-Chairman*,

FRANK J. COUGHLIN, *Secretary*.

Since the time between November 29, 1955 and the end of the year was devoted largely to establishing procedures and determining the scope of the Commission's work, it has been deemed advisable to defer to the 1956 Report a statistical report of the actions of the Commission.

## BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF GAS FITTERS.

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Examinations conducted . . . . .	3
Applicants examined — Master . . . . .	23
Journeyman . . . . .	56
Applicants passed and certified — Master . . . . .	11
Journeyman . . . . .	28

## BOARD OF APPEAL.

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The Board of Appeal, established in accordance with section 117 of chapter 479, Acts of 1938, as amended, in its functioning, may vary the provisions of the Act referred to in specific cases which appear to them not to have been contemplated by this Act although covered by it, or in cases where manifest injustice is done, provided that the decision of the Board in such a case shall have the assent of four members under Building Law and shall be unanimous under Zoning Law and shall not conflict with the spirit of any provision of the Act.

The following is a statistical summary of the work of this department for the year 1955.

In *re* Building Law — chapter 479, Acts of 1938, as amended:

Appeals received . . . . .	100
Appeals withdrawn . . . . .	3
Appeals pending . . . . .	1
Appeals sustained . . . . .	23
Appeals sustained with proviso . . . . .	69
Appeals dismissed . . . . .	9
	—
Total . . . . .	*105

In *re* Zoning Law — chapter 488, Acts of 1924, as amended:

Appeals received . . . . .	168
Appeals withdrawn . . . . .	14
Appeals pending . . . . .	7
Appeals sustained . . . . .	43
Appeals sustained with proviso . . . . .	96
Appeals dismissed . . . . .	30
	—
Total . . . . .	†190

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\* Includes decisions of 5 cases pending from 1954.

† Includes decisions on 22 cases pending from 1954.



## BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

The Board of Examiners was created by city ordinance in 1913 and re-established under legislative act in 1938. It acts upon applications of persons desiring to be licensed in Boston as construction superintendents, approving or rejecting said applications under certain rules and regulations adopted as procedure by the Board. The members are appointed by the Mayor and consist of an architect or engineer, a contractor or mechanic, and a lawyer.

The following list is that of applications acted upon in 1955:

	Approved	Rejected	Suspended
New licenses and reissues . . . . .	149	59	—
Renewals . . . . .	1,866	—	—
Suspended . . . . .	—	—	—
Reissue of licenses granted in previous years . . . . .	362	—	—
	<u>2,377</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>0</u>

Fees collected amounted to \$6,287.







